

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**

Disposition date

Police Case number

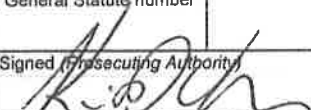
2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Title, Allegation and Counts

State of Connecticut vs. (Name of accused) Pereira, Maria		Residence (Town) of accused Bridgeport	Docket number	
Address LKA 206 Bradley St. Bridgeport, CT 06610		Date of birth 6/06/1967	The undersigned Prosecuting Authority of the State of Connecticut charges that:	
To be held at (Town) Bridgeport	Geographical area number 2	Court date		
Count One — Did commit the offense of: Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Roxann Lafountain			Continued to	Purpose
At (Town) Bridgeport	On or about (Date) 6/18/2023	In violation of General Statute number 9-135(b)		
Count Two — Did commit the offense of: Possession of Ballots and Envelopes Restricted				
At (Town) Bridgeport	On or about (Date) 8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024	In violation of General Statute number 9-140b(d)		
Count Three — Did commit the offense of: Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Joan Maissonett				
At (Town) Bridgeport	On or about (Date) 6/18/2023	In violation of General Statute number 9-135(b)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See other sheet for additional counts		Date 2-10-2025	Signed (Prosecuting Authority) 	

Court Action

Defendant advised of rights before plea				Bond	Surety	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 %	Election (Date)
(Judge)		(Date)				<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> JY
<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Public defender		Guardian		Bond change		Seized property inventory number	

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
1						\$	\$	
2						\$	\$	
3						\$	\$	

Date	Other Court Action	Judge

Receipt number	Cost <input type="checkbox"/> IMP <input type="checkbox"/> NCI	Bond information <input type="checkbox"/> Bond forfeited <input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture vacated <input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture vacated and bond reinstated		
Application fee - receipt number if paid	Circle one W I Q	Program fee - receipt number if paid	Circle one W I Q	Probation fee - receipt number if paid
Prosecutor on original disposition	Reporter/monitor on original disposition	Signed (Clerk)		Signed (Judge)

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Four — Did commit the offense of:

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

Present When an AB Applicant Executes an AB

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024

In violation of General Statute number

9-140b(e)

Count Five — Did commit the offense of:

Possession of Ballots and Envelopes Restricted

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024

In violation of General Statute number

9-140b(d)

Count Six — Did commit the offense of:

Possession of Ballots and Envelopes Restricted - Anselmo Maissonett

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024

In violation of General Statute number

9-140b(d)

Count Seven — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Dennis Waiters

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/06/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Eight — Did commit the offense of:

Present When an AB Applicant Executes an AB

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024

In violation of General Statute number

9-140b(e)

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)

Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Date signed

Kevin D. Lawlor DCSA

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
4						\$	\$	
5						\$	\$	
6						\$	\$	
7						\$	\$	
8						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Nine — Did commit the offense of:			Continued to	Purpose	Reason
Possession of Ballots and Envelopes Restricted					
At (Town)	On or about (Date)	In violation of General Statute number			
Bridgeport	8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024	9-140b(d)			
Count Ten — Did commit the offense of:					
Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Lynnette O'Connor					
At (Town)	On or about (Date)	In violation of General Statute number			
Bridgeport	6/22/2023	9-135(b)			
Count Eleven — Did commit the offense of:					
Possession of Ballots and Envelopes Restricted					
At (Town)	On or about (Date)	In violation of General Statute number			
Bridgeport	8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024	9-140b(d)			
Count Twelve — Did commit the offense of:					
Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Donna Langston					
At (Town)	On or about (Date)	In violation of General Statute number			
Bridgeport	7/08/2023	9-135(b)			
Count Thirteen — Did commit the offense of:					
Present When an AB Applicant Executes an AB					
At (Town)	On or about (Date)	In violation of General Statute number			
Bridgeport	8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024	9-140b(e)			

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)

Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Date signed

Kevin D. Lawler

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
9						\$	\$	
10						\$	\$	
11						\$	\$	
12						\$	\$	
13						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SUPERIOR COURT

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical area number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Fourteen — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Michael Peet

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

7/18/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Fifteen — Did commit the offense of:

Present When an AB Applicant Executes an AB

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/22/2023 - 2/27/2024

In violation of General Statute number

9-140b(e)

Count Sixteen — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Rocco Crudo

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/27/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Seventeen — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - James Raiford

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/17/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Eighteen — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Yolanda Santiago

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

7/24/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)

Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Kevin D. Lawlor DCSA

Date signed

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
14						\$	\$	
15						\$	\$	
16						\$	\$	
17						\$	\$	
18						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Nineteen — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Jessica Santiago

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/22/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Craig Schneider

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

7/16/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-one — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Katharine Feliciano

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/20/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-two — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Cesar Larrea

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

7/01/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-three — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - George Wilson

At (Town)

Bridgeport

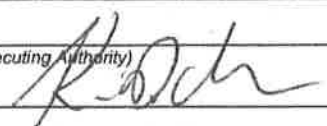
On or about (Date)

6/26/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)



Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Kevin D. Lawlor

DCSA

Date signed

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
19						\$	\$	
20						\$	\$	
21						\$	\$	
22						\$	\$	
23						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Twenty-four — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Carmen Irizarry

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/19/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

Count Twenty-five — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - German Torres

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/26/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-six — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Alba Vendrell

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/24/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-seven — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Felicita Fernandez

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

6/26/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Count Twenty-eight — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Jane Holy

At (Town)

Bridgeport

On or about (Date)

8/20/2023

In violation of General Statute number

9-135(b)

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)

Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Date signed

Kevin D. Lawler

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
24						\$	\$	
25						\$	\$	
26						\$	\$	
27						\$	\$	
28						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT

Disposition date

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

Additional Counts

Count Twenty-nine — Did commit the offense of:

Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting By AB - Sharon Cowan

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Bridgeport

8/09/2023

9-135(b)

Count Thirty — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Count Thirty-one — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Count Thirty-two — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Count Thirty-three — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)

Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

Date signed

Kevin D. Lawlor

DCSA

2-10-2025

Additional Court Action

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
29						\$	\$	
30						\$	\$	
31						\$	\$	
32						\$	\$	
33						\$	\$	

INFORMATION

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT

Disposition date

Police Case number
2024-29207

Agency name
State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Agency number

Arrest Warrant

Geographical
area
number

2

State of Connecticut vs. Pereira, Maria

To: Any Proper Officer of the State of Connecticut

Probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the accused committed it having been found, by Authority of the State of Connecticut, you are hereby commanded to arrest the body of the within-named accused.
("X" all that apply)

- ☐ A. Accused is ordered to be brought before a clerk or assistant clerk of the Superior Court.
- ☐ B. Accused is not entitled to bail.

If A, B, or both are checked above, you shall, without undue delay, bring the arrested person before the clerk or assistant clerk of the Superior Court for the geographical area where the offense is alleged to have been committed, or if the clerk's office is not open, to a community correctional center within said geographical area, or the nearest community correctional center if no such center exists in the geographical area, or to the York Correctional Institution, as the case may be.

☐ C. Bail set at _____.

☒ D. Non-financial conditions of release:

No contact w/ any witnesses/complainants
listed in this warrant.

☐ E. Conditions of release not determined by court.

Extradition boundaries
established by prosecutor

By the Court [Signature]

Signed (Judge of the Superior Court)

Date
2/10/25

Name of Judge (Print or type)
DAYTON, J.

Return On Arrest Warrant

Geographical
area
number

2

Town of

Bridgewater

Date

2/21/2025

State of Connecticut

Then and there, by virtue of the within and foregoing complaint and warrant, I arrested the body of the within-named accused and read the same in the hearing of said accused; and have said accused here in court for examination.

Attest (Officer's signature and Department)

Inspector [Signature] #3372, State of CT - DCJ

Date

Other Court action

Judge

ARREST WARRANT APPLICATIONJD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11
C.G.S. § 54-2a
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**
www.jud.ct.gov

For Court Use Only

Supporting Affidavits sealed

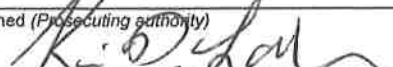
☐ Yes ☐ No

Police Case number 2024-29207	Agency name State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice	Agency number	
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Pereira, Maria	Residence (Town) of accused Bridgeport	Court to be held at (Town) Bridgeport	Geographical Area number 2

Application For Arrest Warrant

To: A Judge of the Superior Court

The undersigned hereby applies for a warrant for the arrest of the above-named accused on the basis of the facts set forth in the: ☒ Affidavit Below. ☐ Affidavit(s) Attached.

Date 2-10-2025	Signed (Prosecuting authority) 	Type/print name of prosecuting authority Kevin D. Lawlor PCSA
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Affidavit

The undersigned affiant, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. The affiant, Police Inspector Scott Stevenson, is a regular sworn member of the State of Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) and is currently assigned to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney (OCSA) in Rocky Hill. The affiant has over twenty-nine years of police training and experience and has conducted numerous investigations resulting in both the arrest and conviction of those persons involved. The facts and circumstances set forth below are from the affiant's personal investigative efforts, as well as information received from fellow law enforcement officers and allied investigators acting in their official capacities.

2. On September 12, 2023, the City of Bridgeport held a primary for the Democratic Party candidate nomination for Mayor (hereinafter referred to as "2023 Primary"). The 2023 Primary candidates were party endorsed candidate and sitting Mayor Joseph Ganim, and challenger John Gomes. The results of the 2023 Primary reported to the State of Connecticut by the Secretary of the State (SOTS) were 4,212 total votes for Mr. Ganim and 3,961 total votes for Mr. Gomes, making the margin of victory by Mr. Ganim of 251 votes. According to undisputed reported results, Mr. Ganim received 2,648 votes via polling place machines on Primary day, and 1,564 absentee ballots ("AB"). Mr. Gomes, in turn, received 3,100 votes via polling place machines, and 861 AB votes.

3. On September 19, 2023, John Gomes filed a complaint in the Bridgeport Superior Court, challenging the 2023 Primary results due to "...violation of the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes governing the casting of absentee ballots...". The complaint became docket number FBT-CV23-6127336-S. Following a trial the Honorable William Clark ordered that a new Primary be held.

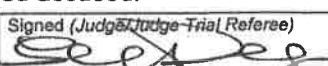
4. On 4/18/2024 and 7/09/2024, the State Elections Enforcement Commission ("SEEC") referred two matters to the OCSA for criminal investigation. Both matters involved Bridgeport City Councilwoman Maria Pereira and her conduct surrounding absentee balloting during the time of the 2023 Primary. Pereira appeared on the 2023 Primary ballot as a candidate for Council Member in the 138th District. These became SEEC Nos. 2023-053 and 2023-090. Both referrals became DCJ# 2024-29207. SEEC investigators provided evidence in their possession to the Statewide Prosecution Bureau within the OCSA.

(This is page 1 of a 18 page Affidavit.)

Date 2/10/2025	Signed (Affiant) Inspector Scott Stevenson #3372
Jurat 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public) OTF, K. PCSA

Finding

The foregoing Application for an arrest warrant, and affidavit(s) attached to said Application, having been submitted to and considered by the undersigned, the undersigned finds from said affidavit(s) that there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the accused committed it and, therefore, that probable cause exists for the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of the above-named accused.

Date and Signature Bridgeport	Signed at (City or town) Bridgeport	On (Date) 2/10/25	Signed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) 	Name of Judge/Judge Trial Referee DAYTON, J.
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ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11
C.G.S. § 54-2a
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**

www.jud.ct.gov

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Pereira, Maria	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

Affidavit - Continued

5. The affiant, and DCJ Inspectors Alfonso Vazquez, Mark Ryan, and Thomas Bennett were assigned to this investigation. The Inspectors reviewed SEEC-provided documents, including but not limited to witness affidavits and handwritten statements, absentee ballot applications ("AB apps"), Application(s) for Additional Absentee Ballot(s) (form ED-3A REV 2/00 - aka "green forms" or "green apps"), and Voter Mail-In Registration Form(s). Review of the absentee ballot applications identified common "assisters" including: Current Bridgeport City Councilwomen Maria Pereira and Jazmarie Melendez. Pereira and Jazmarie are both Councilwoman for the 138th District.

6. An elector who applies for an absentee ballot must declare under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting that the contents of the application are true and correct. The application asks the elector to select the circumstance that makes them eligible to vote via AB. These eligibility requirements are statutorily established by Connecticut General Statutes §9-135(a) and are: "(1) Such elector's or person's active service with the armed forces of the United States; (2) such elector's or person's absence from the town of such elector's or person's voting residence; (3) sickness; (4) physical disability; (5) the tenets of such elector's or person's religion forbid secular activity on the day of such primary, election or referendum; or (6) the required performance of such elector's or person's duties as a primary, election or referendum official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than such elector's or person's own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum." When a person provides assistance to an elector with completion of their absentee ballot application, the person must indicate their name and sign the application as the "assister" under penalties of false statement in absentee balloting.

7. An elector who fills out a "green form" is requesting an additional absentee ballot. An elector can request an additional absentee ballot if they otherwise qualify to receive an AB (meet one of the above-stated six statutory eligibility requirements). The previously issued ballot is returned to the municipal clerk, or if the elector cannot return it, they must indicate why on the form. Green forms are returned to the municipal clerk and have the effect of invalidating an absentee ballot previously issued to the elector, regardless of whether the prior AB was returned to the Town Clerk. Like an original absentee ballot application, the green form applicant declares under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting that the contents are true and correct. A person who assists an elector in the completion of the green form application must also sign and is subject to the same penalty.

8. During the investigation of Maria Pereira, Inspectors conducted interviews of her 138th District constituents. The majority of interviews conducted took place at The Fireside Apartments and The Augustana Apartments. Both are described on The Park City Community's website (parkcitycommunities.org) as having an elderly and disabled or low income population. Many of the witnesses interviewed were found to have physical or cognitive disabilities, or a combination of both. All interviews detailed in this affidavit were documented via DCJ-issued body worn cameras. The excerpts from these interviews do not contain all of the information provided by the interviewees, but rather seek to establish pertinent facts required for the determination of probable cause.

9. Amongst the SEEC-provided documents to the OCSA were sworn affidavits and/or handwritten statements from individuals including, but not limited to, Roxann Lafountain and Helen Losak.

(This is page 2 of a 18 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature] DCJ.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2/10/25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/10/25
[Signature]		DAYTON, J.	

ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11
C.G.S. § 54-2a
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SUPERIOR COURT**

www.jud.ct.gov

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Pereira, Maria	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

Affidavit - Continued

Inspectors conducted follow-up interviews with Lafountain and Losak.

10. On 7/16/2024, the affiant and Inspector Vasquez interviewed Roxann Lafountain at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. There, Lafountain was shown her handwritten statement that accompanied SEEC File No. 23-053. Lafountain confirmed that she had written and signed the letter, which stated in part that "...I will like everyone to know that for 4 year Maria Pereira has taken my voting ballot and stuffed it in her bag to drop it off...she came to my house several time this voting period, but I would not open the door. I would not give her my ballot this time. I knew she was up to no good."

11. Lafountain also reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/18/2023 and confirmed her signature on same. Although Jazmarie Melendez appeared as the assister on Lafountain's application, Lafountain insisted that it was actually Maria Pereira who assisted her. Lafountain stated she has known Pereira for a long time and that Pereira has previously assisted her with AB voting four or five times. Lafountain stated that in all cases, Pereira personally delivered the AB app to her at home, instructing her to sign the form while Pereira filled out the rest of the document. Lafountain stated that Pereira did not explain or verify any of the six eligibility requirements in section four of the application ("Statement of Applicant"). Lafountain's application indicates "sickness" as the reason for requesting an absentee ballot, but she denied checking the box or claiming to Pereira that she had a sickness or any other reason that would qualify her on the application.

12. Lafountain stated that Pereira instructed her to call her once she received her actual AB in the mail. She did so, and Pereira came back to Lafountain's home. There, Pereira instructed Lafountain to sign the ballot envelope before she left with her unexecuted and unsealed absentee ballot, stating, "I'll take care of the rest." Lafountain stated that in some instances where she voted via absentee ballot, she did not select a candidate. Other times, Pereira was present and directed Lafountain which candidate to choose. In all instances, Pereira left with Lafountain's absentee ballot. Given her familiarity with her, Lafountain was shown a single photograph of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified as the person she was referring to. SEEC investigators queried the CT Voter Registration System ("CVRS") and determined that an absentee ballot in Lafountain's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

13. Roxann Lafountain identified two of her neighbors whose absentee ballots were handled by Maria Pereira. One such neighbor was Joan Maissonett. On 7/16/2024, the affiant and Inspector Vasquez interviewed Joan Maissonett at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. Joan and Anselmo Maissonett's absentee ballot applications list Pereira's running mate, Jazmarie Melendez, as the assister and are both dated 6/18/2023. Maissonett stated she's known Maria Pereira for "too long." Maissonett stated that during the 2023 Primary cycle, Pereira came to her door and asked if they (she and her elderly husband, Anselmo) were voting. Maissonett told Pereira she intended on voting, but that she was voting for Ganim. Pereira urged Maissonett to vote for Gomes, representing that he would be the better choice for Mayor and could do more for them, and emphasized the criminal history of Mayor Ganim. Maissonett stated that Pereira had an absentee ballot application with her, which she told Maissonett to sign. Pereira did not provide instructions. Maissonett stated she's voted via

(This is page 3 of a 18 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Thurmond #5572
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	C. J. F. & A. J.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
		Date	2/10/25

ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION

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Affidavit - Continued

absentee ballot in the past and Pereira told her she (Maissonette) already knew how to do it.

14. Maissonett stated that Maria Pereira took her AB app with her and left. Days later, Pereira brought back an actual absentee ballot and she (Maissonett) selected Gomes, at Pereira's urging, while Pereira was physically present. After filling out the ballot, Maissonett inserted it into the envelope, sealed it and handed it to Pereira, who took same and left with it. Pereira stated to Maissonett that "she would make sure that it got put into the box" (presumably an absentee ballot drop box). Maissonett stated that Anselmo was battling cancer back during that time and that she (Maissonett) assisted him with filling out his AB. She stated that she filled out Anselmo's ballot for him, which he in turn signed. Then Maissonett turned over Anselmo's ballot to Pereira with hers. Given her familiarity with her, Maissonett was shown a single photograph of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified as the person she described above. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that absentee ballots in both Joan and Anselmo Maissonett's names were received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

15. On 7/19/2024, the affiant and Inspector Vazquez met with Helen Losak at a Stratford-area restaurant. There, Losak was shown her letter that was submitted in SEEC No. 2023-090. Losak confirmed that she had authored and signed the letter, which was titled "How Maria Pereira Completes Absentee Ballot Applications." This letter stated, in part, the following: "I directly worked with Maria Pereira during her two campaigns for City Council. She boasts herself as an expert in getting hundreds of absentee ballot applications. Concentration for absentee ballot applications was mainly focused on seniors at the Fireside Apartments and Augustana Homes located on Palisade Ave in Bridgeport... On several occasions during both campaigns, she (Pereira) asked me and candidate Michelle Small to "steal" absentee ballot applications that the opposing campaign to her already filed with the Bridgeport Town Clerk Office. She told us the most recent date on the AB application would be honored by the Town Clerk Office. Maria told us to tell the seniors that the Town Clerk Office sent us to redo their AB application because there was a mistake with their birthday on the first AB application. I refused to do this several times and likewise Michelle Small also refused to do this since the Town Clerk Office did not send us and we would be lying to the seniors. ..."

16. Losak stated she's known Maria Pereira for several years, including running jointly with Pereira in different political campaigns since 2016. Given her familiarity with her, Losak was shown a single photograph of Maria Pereira which she positively identified. Losak stated she stopped working with Pereira during Pereira's 2018 re-election campaign to the City Council's 138th district. Losak stated that Pereira would provide absentee ballot applications to residents. That once the applications were turned in, Pereira would revisit the resident. Pereira provided these electors with sample ballots that she (Pereira) created, which directed the voter on how to vote for Pereira. Losak referred to this process as "chasing AB's." Following this, Pereira would access a list that provided her with "Turf Pages," which provided the names and addresses of voters within Pereira's district who had been visited by the opposing candidate(s). Losak stated Pereira would visit the voters on the list and lie to them, stating there was an error on their original absentee ballot, and that the Town Clerk had sent her (Pereira) to fix that error. Losak referred to this as "stealing AB's."

17. To steal the absentee ballot, Pereira would produce a green form (Application for Additional Absentee Ballot form ED-3A) for the voter, indicating the reason for correction as "error in birthday."

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature]
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/10/25

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Once the green form was completed and signed by the voter, Pereira submitted the green form application to the Bridgeport Town Clerk's Office. Losak explained that Pereira's intentions were to cancel the original absentee ballot submitted by the opposing candidate. Losak stated that she notified the Bridgeport Town Clerk Christina Resto of this scheme. According to Losak, Resto told her, "*She (Pereira) can say whatever she wants to say. Obviously Maria's gonna' deny everything. She's gonna say no, no I didn't say that.*"

18. Losak stated that in 2020, Pereira ran for City Council and the Board of Education with Michelle Small. During that campaign, Losak heard Pereira explaining to Small the process of stealing absentee ballots. Pereira told Small they would go out and tell them that the Town Clerk sent them, that there was a mistake with their birthday and that they were there to correct the mistake and do another AB app. Losak told Small not to participate because the lie was designed to mislead voters.

19. On 8/05/2024, the affiant along with Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan met with Michelle Small at her Bridgeport home. Small confirmed that she knows Maria Pereira, having been elected with Pereira to the 138th District in 2021. Given her familiarity with her, Small was shown a single photograph of Maria Pereira which she positively identified. Small stated that while running as Pereira's running-mate, Pereira instructed her on how to secure absentee votes. Pereira instructed Small on how to fill out absentee ballot applications: that Small should complete the top of the application; that the elector was to sign the bottom of the application; that Small should sign as the assister; and that Small was to hand over the completed application to Pereira. Small's understanding was that Pereira returned the applications to the Town Clerk's Office and, at a point thereafter, Pereira would find out when the actual absentee ballots were mailed out. Once the AB's were mailed out, Pereira asked Ms. Small to "chase the ballot," which Small said she refused to do.

20. Small recalled that on three occasions during the 2021 Primary elections, she and Pereira visited voters at the Augustana building. During these visits, when Pereira was told by voters that they had already submitted an AB that had been assisted by the opposition, Pereira would lie to them. Small said Pereira told these voters the Town Clerk's Office had sent them (Pereira & Small) because of an error with their birthdate on the original absentee ballot application. Pereira then told the voters that they needed to complete a second AB app (green form), in order to correct the error. Small recalled the second AB app as a white paper and not green. Small said she refused to lie to the voters because she knew what Pereira was saying and doing was a lie, designed to change the voter's original absentee ballot vote.

21. On 8/14/2024, Inspectors interviewed Bridgeport Town Clerk Christina Resto. Resto explained that if an absentee ballot application is received by her office that has an issue, such as the wrong address, the applicant is not affiliated with the Primary party, or the application is unsigned, the Town Clerk will send the applicant a "problem letter" with a copy of their original application. The letter instructs the applicant how to correct the application (for example, correct the address, sign the form, check off a reason for requesting the AB, etc.). If the application is brought into compliance, the absentee ballot is sent to the elector. If the applicant remains non-compliant, they do not receive an absentee ballot. Resto said, "... we don't send anyone anywhere to correct anything." Resto stated that there have been occasions where a canvasser has stated that an applicant received a problem letter and inquired

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Stevenson # 3872
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	OFFICIAL DAYTON, J.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/10/25

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Affidavit - Continued

as to why. Resto has told the canvasser what the problem was on the AB app, but was clear with Inspectors that she has never sent anyone out on behalf of the Town Clerk's Office to correct anything.

22. Such applications are placed in a "problem box" in her office. Resto explained that absentee ballot applications are public documents and anyone can request to go through the problem box in the presence of a Town Clerk staff member. "Anyone" includes, but is not limited to, candidates, campaign canvassers and solicitors.

23. Resto also discussed the green forms, which she defined as an application for a duplicate ballot. A voter who has already requested an absentee ballot, can apply for an additional ballot. Once the green form is received by the Town Clerk, the absentee ballot previously issued to the elector is cancelled. The first ballot is invalidated upon receipt of the green form, regardless of whether the first absentee ballot was returned to the Town Clerk, and regardless of whether the first ballot was executed. Resto underscored the power of the green form. When asked if receipt of a green form "kills the first vote," Resto stated flatly, "That's it, yes."

24. Resto further explained that the green forms are signed out in the same manner as absentee ballot applications, meaning there is a (public) log kept in the Town Clerk's office. When asked about the frequency of green form usage in prior elections, Resto stated it was low, estimating five or less occurrences. In the 2023 election cycle, Resto recalled a noticeable uptick in persons signing out green forms, among them being Maria Pereira, whom Resto recalled possibly signing out as many as fifty. Note that inspectors followed-up with SEEC investigators and learned that a total of forty green forms were returned to the Town Clerk during the 2023 Primary. Thirty-two of these were from the 138th District, eighteen of which were assisted by Maria Pereira.

25. Based upon above information, inspectors requested from SEEC, and were provided with, a list of absentee ballot and green form applicants upon which Maria Pereira is listed as the assister. The following interviews arose from an analysis of those SEEC-provided lists.

26. On 8/15/2024, the affiant along with Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan spoke with Rocco Crudo at his home located in the Fireside Apartments. Crudo reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 6/18/2023, and a green form dated 8/27/2023, in his name. He confirmed his signature on both documents. Note that current Bridgeport Councilwoman Jazmarie Melendez appeared as Crudo's assister on his original AB app, and that Maria Pereira appeared as his assister on his green form. Crudo stated that besides his signature, he did not write on, or check off anything on either form. That "Maria Perez" came around a few times, knocked on his door looking for his vote, and simply told him to sign the papers. Crudo said the eligibility requirements for voting via absentee ballot were not discussed with him. "Physical Disability" was checked off on both forms. Crudo stated told Inspectors he has "mental health issues," but said he is mobile, goes out for appointments and shopping and could vote in person if he wanted. Crudo further said that he only dealt with "Maria Perez" during this election cycle and has never disclosed his health issue with her. The CVRS further shows Rocco Crudo last voted in person, in 2019.

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Date 2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant) Inspector [Signature] # 3372
Jurat Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-9-25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public) [Signature]
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official) [Signature]	Date 2-10-25
Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) DAYTON, J.	Date 2/10/25

ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION

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27. Rocco Crudo denied receiving an absentee ballot in the mail and denied voting via absentee ballot. Inspector Vazquez read aloud to Crudo the writing on the green form: "*Samia Suliman and Maria Melendez Gomez were present and directed Mr. Crudo to vote Row A. Mr. Crudo threw it away after they left.*" Crudo was adamant that he did not vote, that this statement was not written by him, and that it is untruthful. Crudo further stated he does not know Samia Sulliman or Maria Melendez Gomez. Crudo stated he's resided at his current address for five years, during which time Maria has come around to see him during the election cycles. Given his familiarity with her, Crudo was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified as "Maria Perez", the person who failed to review the absentee ballot eligibility requirements with him when assisting him with his green form. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Crudo's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

28. On 8/16/2024, the affiant along with Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan spoke with Dennis Waiters at his home located in the Fireside Apartments. Waiters reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 8/6/2023, and a green form dated 8/29/2023, both bearing his name. He confirmed his signature on both documents. Note that Maria Pereira appeared as Waiters' assister on his original AB app, and Jazmarie Melendez appeared as his assister on his green form. Waiters recalled that when a female brought the forms to him, they were not filled out. The female only had him sign them and then she left with the forms. Waiters stated he didn't read the form, that the female simply asked if she could get his signature and asked if he would vote. Waiters stated yes he would vote, as he had never voted before. Waiters described this female as tall, Spanish, and 55-60 years old (note Jazmarie Melendez is significantly younger than Maria Pereira having a birth year of 1998). Although Waiters stated he doesn't walk well due to hip surgeries, he stated that the Spanish female did not review the eligibility requirements for voting AB with him. That the female who assisted him told him, "*Well you do this (AB app) then I'll come back and then I'll bring the rest and then you can vote.*"

29. Waiters stated he has seen the female numerous times, as she frequents the Fireside Apartments (and described the frequency as having become an annoyance). Although confused about how his absentee ballot arrived at his home, Waiters stated that the female came back and he filled it out in her presence on his front porch. Waiters stated that after he filled out the absentee ballot, the female took it with her and left. He was adamant that he didn't put anything into an envelope, that he didn't put a stamp on anything and that he didn't mail his AB. Waiters further explained he didn't sign or send anything in because he doesn't know how to vote and he definitely wouldn't know where to send it. Given his familiarity with her, Waiters was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified as the Spanish female he described.

30. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Dennis Waiters' name was not tabulated in the 2023 Primary. Note that this circumstance does not negate the assertion that Pereira took possession of Waiters' absentee ballot. An elector loses control over an absentee ballot once they no longer possess it. If an agent of a candidate possessed his executed, unsealed ballot, and did not care for Waiters' selection, the possessor could (illegally) simply discard it.

31. On 8/28/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed James Raiford at his home located in the Fireside Apartments in the presence of his daughters Tambria Raiford and Jennifer Brown. James

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature] DAYTON, J.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/10/25

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stated that he doesn't vote, and that he "*stopped with Mandanici*" (a former Bridgeport Mayor) in the 1980's. When asked about people coming around for the 2023 Primary, Tambria stated that James was hospitalized from mid-September through December 4, 2023, after a fall in which James suffered a broken neck and was paralyzed. James recalled that a lot of people came around knocking on doors, and asking him to sign papers for voting.

32. SEEC provided the OCSA with James Raiford's absentee ballot application, signed on 6/17/2023, and his green form, signed on 8/29/2023. Both dates preceded James' fall and subsequent hospitalization. James reviewed his AB app and confirmed his signature on same. He denied that the other writing on the application was his, stating "whoever had this paper filled out the top." When pointed out that sickness was checked off as the reason for requesting an absentee ballot, Tambria blurted out "*That's a lie! He just got an absentee ballot this year to vote because of his situation.*" James stated that before his fall in September of 2023, he had no illness or disability. James recalled that during the 2023 Primary period, two women visited his home: referring to them as "the young girl and the other lady." He recalled signing a form for the women and they told him they would take care of it. James stated that the AB eligibility requirements were not reviewed with him. Sickness was checked off on his AB app, which James neither checked off nor claimed. He stated the women told him that absentee ballot voting is what they do for the seniors, and by signing the form they would take care of it. Jazmarie Melendez is listed as James' assister on his absentee ballot application.

33. James was shown his green form, dated 8/29/2023, which indicated "my physical disability" as the circumstance making him eligible to vote via absentee ballot. In the space provided "sent it out wrong by mail" was handwritten as the reason he could not return the original set issued to him. James and his daughters reiterated that he was not sick or disabled during the summer of 2023. In fact, he had been in Virginia that August, at a family reunion "dancing and everything." James recalled that someone came back and told him he "sent the wrong one out." James recalled having sent in a ballot, stating that he put it in an envelope. James told Inspectors "I didn't know which one to vote for, I didn't know how to use this." The name "Abraham Duque" appears as James' assister on his green form. James denied that any male party visited him with any election forms. While gesturing to Maria Pereira's photo, he was adamant that the "older one" was the one who told him he voted wrong. This prompted him to tell Pereira that he had filled it out (the absentee ballot), but he didn't know if he did it right. If the green form has the effect of cancelling a previously submitted absentee ballot, it is more likely from the context of Pereira's statements that she is the person who assisted him with the green form, and not Mr. Duque.

34. Given his limited knowledge of the women he described, inspectors conducted two separate folder shuffle identification procedures, in which James positively identified both Maria Pereira and Jazmarie Melendez as being present at his home with the absentee balloting forms. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in James Raiford's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

35. On 9/19/2024, Inspectors Vazquez and Bennet spoke with Yolanda Santiago at her home located in the Augustana building. Santiago reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 7/24/2023, and confirmed her signature on same. When she saw Jazmarie Melendez's name listed as the assister,

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Stevenson #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	OT F. W. PCT.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
		Date	2/10/25

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Santiago stated, "*Oh yeah, she's with Maria Pereira.*" Santiago stated that although they came around together, Pereira was usually alone. She could not recall if Melendez and Pereira were together when the absentee ballot application was done. Regardless, Santiago said Pereira did all of the talking when they were together. "Sickness" was checked off as the reason for requesting Santiago's absentee ballot. Santiago stated that the AB eligibility requirements were not reviewed with her by Pereira, that she (Santiago) was likely not sick at the time the AB app was filled out. Further, Santiago stated that Pereira told her "*If you're over 65 or something like that, you could get an absentee ballot.*"

36. Santiago stated that once she received her absentee ballot in the mail, she completed it and placed it in the mail at Augustana. Santiago stated she's known Pereira, around politics, for four years. Given her familiarity with her, Santiago was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified as the person who misrepresented the eligibility requirements for voting via absentee ballot with her. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Yolanda Santiago's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

37. On 9/19/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan spoke with Lynette O'Connor at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. O'Connor reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/22/2023, and confirmed her signature on same, stating that besides her signature, she did not write on, or check off anything else on the form. "Sickness" was checked off as the reason for requesting O'Connor's absentee ballot. O'Connor denied that she was sick at that time, reiterating that she did not indicate so. O'Connor recalled that "Maria" was the one who brought her AB app for the 2023 Primary. She also recalled that Maria was often accompanied by a younger Hispanic girl. Jazmarie Melendez is indicated as O'Connor's assister on her AB app. O'Connor stated that Maria did not explain the eligibility requirements to her, only telling O'Connor that voting AB was "easier for us."

38. Lynette O'Connor stated that once her ballot came, she filled it out, then "*put it in the envelope, and I put it in another envelope and then I give it to them...and then they deposit it.*" When asked to clarify who she gave her completed AB to, O'Connor stated "*Maria...Maria's like the head.*" O'Connor stated that she's lived in the Fireside Apartments for ten years and that she's seen Maria frequently, as she comes around during the elections. Given her familiarity with her, O'Connor was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified as the "Maria" described above. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Lynette O'Connor's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

39. On 9/20/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed Jessica Santiago at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. Santiago reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/22/2023, and confirmed her signature on same, adding that the other writing on the form was not hers. Although Jazmarie Melendez is listed as the assister on the application, Santiago stated that "Maria" brought her the application. Jessica Santiago stated Maria did not review the absentee ballot eligibility requirements with her. "Sickness" was checked off as the reason for requesting Santiago's AB. Santiago denied that she checked off that box, denied that she was sick at that time, and denied that she held herself out to be sick to Maria. Santiago stated she had one knee replaced five years ago and the other replaced two years ago, but she's mobile and not physically disabled. Santiago stated that she "*just didn't want to go*" (to the polls). Although Santiago speaks English well, she does not read

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Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	OT FID OCT.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
			Date 2/10/25

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English well. The absentee ballot application completed in Santiago's name was on the English version and not the Spanish version. Santiago commented, "*She put it in English, I don't know why...she knows that I don't read that much English.*"

40. Santiago said she has lived at Fireside for seven years and Maria comes around during the elections. Santiago added that Maria is the same person who had a problem with her neighbor "Elizabeth," when Maria tried to come through Elizabeth's window. The Affiant in fact previously applied for an arrest warrant charging Maria Pereira with Disorderly Conduct and Forgery in the First Degree arising out of the allegation that Pereira demanded Winston let her into her residence in order to get her to sign what was later determined to be a mail-in voter registration form (Case # 2024-29207).

41. Santiago stated that once her absentee ballot came in the mail, she filled it out and mailed it in herself. Given her familiarity with her, Santiago was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Jessica Santiago's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

42. On 9/20/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed Craig Schneider at his Bridgeport residence. Schneider reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 7/16/2023, and confirmed his signature on same, adding that the other writing on the form was not his. Schneider stated that his partner of thirty-five years has a disability and that he (Schneider) acts as his caregiver. Schneider stated that when his absentee ballot application was brought to him, it was already filled out and that he simply signed it. Schneider stated that there was nothing to preclude him from voting in person. That although he broke his ankle four years ago, he could have driven to a polling location and voted in person.

43. Jazmarie Melendez is listed as the assister on his application, but when asked who brought him his application, Schneider walked to his kitchen and brought back a refrigerator-type magnet of "Important Numbers" bearing Maria Pereira's name and picture. When asked how many times Pereira has come to his home, Schneider stated "*every time there's an election.*" He added that Pereira usually came to his home alone, but in the last election a black woman and an older male came by his home. Schneider stated that once his ballot came in the mail, he filled it out and mailed it from the mailbox in his building. Given his familiarity with her, Schneider was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Craig Schneider's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

44. On 9/20/2024, the affiant and Inspector Bennett interviewed Donna Langston at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. Langston reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 7/8/2023, and confirmed the signature was hers. Langston said the other writing on the form was not hers. Langston stated that she moved to Bridgeport from Stratford two years ago. That she previously voted in-person in Stratford, but in Bridgeport people always come to her door (during elections). She recalled that one of them was a Bridgeport Councilwoman named "Maria." Maria introduced herself to Langston as the Councilwoman for that area. Langston was unsure of Maria's last name, but when advised that Maria Pereira's name was written on her AB app as her assister, Langston stated "*that's her.*" Langston stated that Pereira did not review eligibility requirements for absentee balloting with her. When asked

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Ryan #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	CFE Det.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
		Date	2/10/25

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**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
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why Pereira offered to sign her up for AB voting, Langston stated that Pereira told her *"This is something they do for the seniors because they can't get out."* When asked about any illness/physical disability at that time, Langston said she fell down and was hospitalized on 7/18/2023, which is ten days after Langston signed her AB app.

45. Langston recalled that Pereira told her an absentee ballot would be coming in the mail. At that time, Pereira had a slip of paper with her that showed exactly what the AB looked like. Pereira instructed Langston to *"fill it out, circle it in, put it back in the envelope because there will be a stamp on it and return it to the return address."* Langston stated her ballot arrived in the mail, and that Maria stopped by to see if Langston had mailed it in. Langston retrieved her absentee ballot from her kitchen and Pereira helped her fill it out. Langston stated that Pereira *"didn't tell me who/what to circle, she showed me whoever I vote for where to circle at"* on the ballot. Langston stated that after she filled out her AB, she signed and sealed the envelopes, before mailing her AB in the Fireside mailbox. Langston stated that Pereira came back another time to see if she mailed the AB, and she told her she had. Given Langston's limited knowledge of her, Inspectors conducted a folder shuffle identification procedure, in which Langston positively identified Maria Pereira as the person who she described. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Donna Langston's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

46. On 9/20/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan spoke with Michael Peet at his Bridgeport residence. Peet reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 7/18/2023, wherein Jazmarie Melendez is listed as the assister, and he confirmed his signature. Note Mr. Peet also had a second application that he completed himself and signed as his own assister. Peet stated that he votes via absentee ballot because he is so busy, however, "Sickness" is checked off as the reason for requesting an AB. Note, Jazmarie Melendez appears as the assister on Peet's AB app, however, when asked who helps him with absentee balloting, he stated it was a friend named "Maria." Peet insisted, *"she was the only one that I saw"*. And differentiated Maria as the person who helped him with his application and absentee ballot, while he only saw others down the hall.

47. Peet stated that Maria told him, *"I'll help you with this, but I can't get involved with too much of this stuff, so just get it, make sure it arrives, I'll help you with it."* Peet stated that Maria also helps him complete his absentee ballot. Peet stated that when Maria stops by, she'll ask *"Did your mailing absentee arrive."* Peet added that if he says no, she comes back and asks again. Once the absentee ballot arrives in the mail, Maria helps Peet by standing in his kitchen while he fills it out. Peet said she helps him put it (the absentee ballot) in the envelope and he puts a stamp on it and mails it himself. Peet stated that he has lived at his current address for over ten years and described frequent contact with "Maria". Given his familiarity with her, Peet was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Michael Peet's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

48. On 9/27/2024, inspectors spoke with Katharine Feliciano at her Bridgeport residence. Feliciano reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 8/20/2023, and confirmed her signature on same. Feliciano stated she votes by AB often, and that her representative, Maria Pereira, brings her an AB app. Maria Pereira is in fact listed as the assister on her 2023 Primary application. Feliciano stated

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Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/19/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	OT J. J. OCS
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
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that she works in New York, so that's typically how she votes. Feliciano stated she's known Pereira since approximately 2010 and, previously, they were next-door neighbors. Feliciano stated that Pereira has reviewed the AB eligibility requirements with her in the past. When shown that sickness was checked off as the reason for requesting her AB app, Feliciano stated she does not have a long-term illness, and she did not tell Pereira that she has an illness that would have kept her from voting in person. Given her familiarity with her, Feliciano was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Katharine Feliciano's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

49. On 9/27/2024, inspectors attempted to locate Cesar Larrea at his home located in the Fireside Apartments but were unable to make contact with him. While at another apartment in the complex, the affiant and Inspector Ryan were approached by Luis Montanez, who identified himself as Larrea's fiancée. Montanez confirmed that he and Larrea were residing at their current address during the 2023 Primary. He stated, "*we always get the absentee ballots at home.*" Montanez said that Maria Pereira brings them their absentee ballot applications because he is disabled and Larrea works all the time. That it's easier for him (Montanez), but Larrea could vote in person at the school. He further explained that Maria Pereira told him that she'll just have it (absentee ballot) brought to the house, "*because why would you go and he not.*" Montanez stated they both could go and vote in person if necessary. Montanez also stated that once their AB's are done, they mail them themselves and that Maria Pereira has never taken them. Montanez contacted Larrea at his workplace, and he agreed to meet us there.

50. Cesar Larrea reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 7/1/2023. Larrea stated that none of the writing on the AB app was his, including the signature. Maria Pereira is listed as the assister on the application. "Sickness" was checked off and scribbled out, with "My absence from the town of residence" checked off in its place as the reason Larrea requested an AB. When asked if there was anything that would have kept him from being able to vote in person, Larrea said no, and that that there were just times that he got out of work and couldn't go. He stated that Maria Pereira told him that "... *you don't need to go, your absentee ballot will be mailed to your house every time...it's better for you, you don't have to go there, you just get it mailed to your house.*"

51. Larrea stated that he's lived in the Fireside Apartments with Montanez for eleven years, and he knows Pereira from coming around during that time. Larrea stated that Pereira originally suggested to Luis (Montanez) that he have his (Larrea's) AB sent to the house. Larrea stated that Pereira has never been present when he filled out his AB and that he has never given her a completed absentee ballot. Given his familiarity with her, Larrea was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Cesar Larrea's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

52. On 10/03/2024, the affiant and Inspector Bennett spoke with George Wilson at his Bridgeport residence. Wilson reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 6/26/2023, and confirmed his signature on same, stating that besides his signature, he did not write on the form. Wilson said absentee ballots came as a surprise to him, as he always voted in person. When shown that Maria Pereira was listed as the assister on his application, Wilson stated he knew Pereira. Wilson said Pereira is the person who always brings his AB app, and that he votes for who she's aligned with. He

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Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official) <i>[Signature]</i>	Date 2-10-25
Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) DAYTON, J.	Date 2/10/25

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stated the form was already filled out when originally brought to him, and all he had to do was sign. He said the eligibility requirements for absentee balloting were not explained to him. When shown that "Sickness" had been checked on his AB app as the reason he is eligible to receive an absentee ballot, Wilson stated, "I'm sick, but that doesn't prevent me from doing my duty." Wilson never claimed to Maria Pereira that he was sick or disabled, and they've never had a conversation about his medical history. When asked if he was told why he can vote AB, versus going to vote in-person, Wilson stated, "No explanation."

53. Wilson stated he was provided with (what was described like something consistent with) campaign literature, stating "...you know they send you a copy of how you're supposed to fill it (AB) out or how you're supposed to mark it, or whatever" Once his absentee ballot arrived, Wilson stated he completed and mailed it himself. Given his familiarity with her, Wilson was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified. Wilson also showed us a refrigerator-type magnet of "Important Numbers" bearing Maria Pereira's name and picture. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in George Wilson's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

54. During the course of this investigation, several Spanish-speaking witnesses were interviewed. These interviews were conducted by Inspector Vazquez, who is fluent in Spanish. Those interviewed included the following: Carmen Irizarry, German Torres, Alba Vendrell and Felicita Fernandez.

55. On 10/03/2024, Inspector Vazquez and Ryan interviewed Carmen Irizarry at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. Irizarry reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/19/2023, and confirmed her signature on same. The application was the English version and not in Spanish. Irizarry recalled that Maria Pereira, whom she has known for several years, is the only person with whom she has ever completed AB apps. Pereira is in fact listed as the assister on her 2023 Primary application. Irizarry stated that Pereira did not review the eligibility requirements to vote absentee ballot, with her. "Sickness" was checked off as the reason for requesting Irizarry's absentee ballot. Irizarry denied having checked off sickness and she was adamant that she was not sick during the September 2023 Primary. Further, Irizarry stated she was capable of voting in person. Irizarry recalled that she received her absentee ballot, then completed and mailed it on her own. Given her familiarity with her, Irizarry was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified as the person who failed to review eligibility requirements while assisting with her AB application. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Carmen Irizarry's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

56. On 10/03/2024, Inspectors Vazquez and M. Ryan interviewed German Torres at his home located in the Augustana building. Torres reviewed his absentee ballot application dated 6/26/2023, and confirmed his signature on same, stating that Maria Pereira, whom he has known for at least two years, was the person who provided him with and assisted with his AB app. Pereira is in fact listed as the assister on the 2023 Primary application. Torres denied that Pereira reviewed AB eligibility requirements with him. He stated that he did not check off "Sickness" as the reason for requesting an absentee ballot, he did not purport himself to be sick to Pereira, and that he only signed the form. Torres explained he does not read or write English and he was not provided with a Spanish version of

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Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	OT FID RUT.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J.
			Date 2/10/25

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the application. Approximately one week later, Torres received his absentee ballot in the mail, which he completed and mailed himself. Given his familiarity with her, Torres was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom he positively identified. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in German Torres' name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

57. On 10/03/2024, Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan interviewed Alba Vendrell at her home located in the Augustana building. Vendrell reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/24/2023, and confirmed her signature on same. Vendrell stated that a female known to her as "Maria Peralta" provided her with, and assisted her with, her absentee ballot application. Maria Pereira is in fact listed as the assister on her 2023 Primary application. Vendrell stated that she has known Maria for over two years and that in past elections, Maria has picked up her completed absentee ballots. Vendrell said Maria did not review AB eligibility requirements with her. She also denied selecting, "Physical Disability" as the reason for requesting her AB. Alba explained she does not read or write English and she was not provided with a Spanish version of the application. Given her familiarity with her, Vendrell was shown a single photograph of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Alba Vendrell's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

58. On 10/03/2024, Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan interviewed Felicita Fernandez at her home located in the Augustana building. Fernandez reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 6/26/2023, and confirmed her signature on same. Fernandez stated that Maria Pereira, whom she has known for several years, provided her with and assisted her AB app. Pereira is listed as the assister on her application. Fernandez said Maria did not review AB eligibility requirements with her. She also stated that did not select "Physical Disability" as the reason for requesting her absentee ballot, and that she had no discussions with Pereira claiming she was physically disabled. Given her familiarity with her, Fernandez was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Felicita Fernandez's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

59. On 10/04/2024, Inspectors Ryan and Vazquez interviewed Jane Holy at her Bridgeport residence. Holy reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 8/20/2023, and confirmed her signature on the application. Holy stated that besides her signature, she did not write on the form. Holy recalled that Maria Pereira brought her application to her, stating that she's known Pereira "just for a couple of years." Maria Pereira is listed as the assister on her 2023 Primary AB application. Holy stated that Pereira did not review AB eligibility requirements with her. She said she voted in person prior to COVID, but has been voting via absentee ballot ever since. Holy stated she is physically able to vote in-person, acknowledging that it's simply easier to vote via absentee ballot. She also stated that if an AB did not arrive in time, she just went and voted in person.

60. Holy stated she first met Pereira when she stopped by Holy's house while campaigning. Once her absentee ballot arrived in the mail, Holy completed it and placed it in the Boston Avenue absentee ballot drop box. Given her familiarity with her, Holy was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that Holly voted in-person in the 2023 Primary, and via absentee ballot in the subsequent 2023 Bridgeport General and Special

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Date 2/10/2025	Signed (Affiant) Inspector [Signature] #332		
Jurat Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public) [Signature]		
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official) [Signature]	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) DAYTON, J.	Date 2/10/25

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Elections.**

61. On 10/04/2024, Inspectors Ryan and Vazquez interviewed Sharon Cowan at her Bridgeport residence. Cowan reviewed her absentee ballot application dated 8/9/2023, and confirmed her signature. Besides signing and dating the form, Cowan did not write on it. She stated she *"signed and dated, that's it."* When asked if she recalled who brought her the AB app, Cowan stated the only person she remembered coming around was Maria Pereira, who is in fact the person listed as the assister on her 2023 Primary application. Cowan stated that Pereira did not review absentee ballot eligibility requirements with her. "Sickness" was checked off as the reason for requesting Cowan's absentee ballot. Cowan denied having checked off sickness, or having told Pereira she was sick. Cowan stated that when Pereira stopped by, she (Cowan) had just had surgery and wasn't feeling well. Nonetheless, Cowan stated she would've been able to vote in person.

62. Cowan stated that Maria Pereira came to her house twice. The second time Pereira *"came out here and started yelling my name, which I thought was disrespectful."* Given her familiarity with her, Cowan was shown a single photo of Maria Pereira, whom she positively identified. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Cowan's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

63. The Affiant notes there were times in the investigation where Inspectors spoke with Witnesses whose absentee balloting documents listed Maria Pereira as their assister who reported their absentee balloting process was handled properly and lawfully by Maria Pereira.

64. Throughout the investigation of matters SEEC referred to the OCSA it became apparent that the assister listed on an absentee ballot application was not always identified by the elector-witness as the true assister. In some cases, the witness was adamant someone else presented them with the application. On 12/13/2024 the Affiant contacted Jazmarie Melendez in an attempt to speak with her regarding DCJ #2024-29207. Attorney Alex Taubes contacted the affiant and requested the absentee ballot documents to review with his client, Melendez. On 12/23/2024, the affiant e-mailed a copy of the assister section of an absentee ballot application bearing his client's name and signature. The Affiant believed Melendez could explain why her name was listed as the assister under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting, on absentee ballot applications that witnesses say she did not assist. At the time of this affidavit, the Affiant has not received further communication from her attorney.

65. Maria Pereira submitted a response to SEEC in their No. 2023-090. Pereira asserted, among other things, that the statements in the complaint should be discredited because the witness had only signed something that someone else had filled out. She also accused Roxanne Lafountain as being aligned with Mayor Ganim and accused her running mate, Jazmin Melendez, of assisting Lafountain and others with their absentee ballot applications (effectively accusing Melendez of misrepresenting the eligibility requirements for absentee balloting). She also accused Lafountain of being angry that Wanda Geter-Pataky was captured on video stuffing ballots into ballot boxes. On 1/08/2025, the affiant contacted Maria Pereira and requested an interview with her. Shortly thereafter Attorney Robert Frost contacted the affiant who reiterated a request to interview his client. At the time of this affidavit the Affiant is aware that Attorney Frost is looking for more information prior to scheduling an interview. An

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Date 2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant) Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/7/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public) [Signature]
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official) [Signature]	Date 2-10-25
Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) DAYTON, J.	Date 2/10/25

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interview has not yet been scheduled.

66. Any elector eligible to vote at a primary may vote by absentee ballot upon the occurrence of at least one of six circumstances listed in C.G.S. §9-135(a). Subsection (b) of §9-135 prohibits misrepresentation of the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot. That subsection states, "(b) No person shall misrepresent the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, to any elector or prospective absentee ballot applicant."

67. No candidate or agent of a candidate, political party or committee (as defined by the Connecticut General Statutes), can be knowingly present when an absentee ballot applicant executes an absentee ballot, except in certain circumstances allowed by C.G.S. §9-140b(e). None of the statutory exceptions apply to Maria Pereira's behavior as described in this affidavit.

68. No person shall have in his possession any official absentee ballot or ballot envelope for use at any primary except the applicant to whom it was issued unless otherwise authorized by C.G.S. §9-140b(d). None of the statutory carve-outs are present in the transactions described in this affidavit that would bring Maria Pereira's possession of an elector's absentee ballot in accord with the law.

69. Based upon the facts and circumstances stated herein, the affiant believes that probable cause has been established that Maria Pereira violated the following Connecticut General Statutes:

C.G.S. §9-135(b) MISREPRESENTING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ABSENTEE VOTING
(20 COUNTS, TO WIT:)

1. Roxann Lafountain (as detailed in paragraph # 11 of this affidavit)
2. Joan Maissonett (as detailed in paragraph # 13 of this affidavit)
3. Rocco Crudo (as detailed in paragraphs # 26 & 27 of this affidavit)
4. Dennis Waiters (as detailed in paragraph # 28 of this affidavit)
5. James Raiford (as detailed in paragraph # 33 of this affidavit)
6. Yolanda Santiago (as detailed in paragraph # 35 of this affidavit)
7. Lynette O'Connor (as detailed in paragraph # 37 of this affidavit)
8. Jessica Santiago (as detailed in paragraph # 39 of this affidavit)
9. Craig Schneider (as detailed in paragraph # 42 of this affidavit)
10. Donna Langston (as detailed in paragraph # 44 of this affidavit)
11. Michael Peet (as detailed in paragraph # 47 of this affidavit)
12. Katharine Feliciano (as detailed in paragraph # 48 of this affidavit)

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Date	2/6/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature] DAYTON, J.
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13. Cesar Larrea (as detailed in paragraphs # 49 & 50 of this affidavit)
14. George Wilson (as detailed in paragraph # 52 of this affidavit)
15. Carmen Irizarry (as detailed in paragraph # 55 of this affidavit)
16. German Torres (as detailed in paragraph # 56 of this affidavit)
17. Alba Vendrell (as detailed in paragraph # 57 of this affidavit)
18. Felicita Fernandez (as detailed in paragraph # 58 of this affidavit)
19. Jane Holy (as detailed in paragraph # 59 of this affidavit)
20. Sharon Cowan (as detailed in paragraph # 61 of this affidavit)

C.G.S. §9-140b(e) PRESENT WHEN AN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICANT EXECUTES AN ABSENTEE BALLOT (4 COUNTS, TO WIT:)

1. Joan Maissonett (as detailed in paragraph # 14 of this affidavit)
2. Dennis Waiters (as detailed in paragraph # 29 of this affidavit)
3. Donna Langston (as detailed in paragraph # 45 of this affidavit)
4. Michael Peet (as detailed in paragraph # 47 of this affidavit)

C.G.S. §9-140b(d) POSSESSION OF BALLOTS AND ENVELOPES RESTRICTED (5 COUNTS, TO WIT:)

1. Roxann Lafountain (as detailed in paragraph # 12 of this affidavit)
2. Joan Maissonett (as detailed in paragraph # 14 of this affidavit)
3. Anselmo Maissonett (as detailed in paragraph # 14 of this affidavit)
4. Dennis Waiters (as detailed in paragraph # 29 of this affidavit)
5. Lynette O'Connor (as detailed in paragraph # 37 of this affidavit)

70. Therefore, the affiant requests that an arrest warrant be issued for Maria Pereira (DOB 6/06/1967 charging her with Misrepresenting Eligibility Requirements for Voting by Absentee Ballot (20 COUNTS), in violation of C.G.S. 9-135(b); Present When an Absentee Ballot Applicant Executes an Absentee Ballot (4 COUNTS), in violation of C.G.S. 9-140b(e); and Possession of Envelopes and Ballots Restricted (5 COUNTS), in violation of C.G.S. 9-140b(d).

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Date 2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant) Inspector Scott Stevenson #3372
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OFFER

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Date	2/09/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2/9/25	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	CLERK P.J.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-10-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	DAYTON, J. Date 2/10/25